

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03713 150007Z

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AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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TAGS: PFOR, UN, SF

SUBJECT: UN APARTHEID COMMITTEE STATEMENT ON ALLEGED SOUTH AFRICAN
MILITARY EXPANSION.

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF UN APARTHEID COMMITTEE

STATEMENT OF SEPTEMBER 9:

QUOTE:

"THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID NOTES WITH UTMOST CONCERN THE RAPID EXPANSION OF THE MILITARY ARSENAL OF THE APARTHEID REGIME OF SOUTH AFRICA, WITH THE CONNIVANCE AND COLLABORATION OF SOME WESTERN STATES AND ISRAEL. THE MILITARIZATION OF SOUTH AFRICA POSES A SERIOUS THREAT TO THE INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATES AND TO THE PEACE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN ZONE.

"THE MILITARY BUDGET OF SOUTH AFRICA HAS INCREASED TEN-FOLD FROM 44 MILLION RAND IN 1960-1961 TO 447 MILLION RAND IN 1973-1974. SINCE THE COLLAPSE OF PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM IN 1974, AND THE PROCLAMATION OF A SHAM 'DETENTE' POLICY IN 1974, IT HAS TRIPLED, RISING TO 692 MILLION

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PAGE 02 USUN N 03713 150007Z

RAND IN 1974-1975, 948 MILLION RAND IN 1975-1976 AND 1,350

MILLION RAND IN 1976-1977. THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE OF THE PRETORIA REGIME ANNOUNCED RECENTLY THAT IT WILL BE FURTHER INCREASED.

"WITH THIS INCREASE IN ITS ARMAMENTS, THE PRETORIA REGIME LAUNCHED LARGE-SCALE AGGRESSION AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA IN 1975 AND REPEATED ACTS OF AGGRESSION AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA IN 1976. IT HAS DEFIED DEMANDS BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL THAT IT PAY COMPENSATION TO ANGOLA AND CEASE ACTS OF AGGRESSION AGAINST ZAMBIA.

"THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE WISHES ON THIS OCCASION TO EXPRESS PARTICULAR CONCERN OVER THE NAVAL EXPANSION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

"THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME HAS BUILT A MARITIME COMMUNICATION COMPLEX IN SILVERMINE AND EXPANDED ITS NAVY WITH A VIEW TO FORGING CLOSER MILITARY LINKS WITH CERTAIN WESTERN POWERS AND ENTICING THEM TO DEFEND IT AGAINST THE WARTH OF THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE AND THEIR FRIENDS. REGRETTABLY, SOME WESTERN AND OTHER POWERS HAVE ESTABLISHED NAVAL LINKS WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

"A FEW WEEKS AGO, FRANCE AGREED TO SELL TWO SUBMARINES TO SOUTH AFRICA. IT WAS REPORTED THAT ISRAEL HAD AGREED TO SUPPLY SOUTH AFRICA WITH TWO MISSILE-EQUIPPED GUN-BOATS.

"THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE CATEGORICALLY REJECTS THE CONTENTION THAT NAVAL EQUIPMENT IS DEFENSIVE OR IS NOT A THREAT TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE OR TO INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATES.

"THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE RECALLS THAT THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU) COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, AT ITS 27TH ORDINARY SESSION, HELD IN MAURITIUS FROM 24 JUNE TO 3 JULY 1976, EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE GROWING MILITARY AND NAVAL ACTIVITIES OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AND SOUTH ATLANTIC ZONES.

"THE FIFTH CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES, MEETING IN COLOMBO IN AUGUST 1976, DENOUNCED THE SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY BASES IN THE AREA-- ESPECIALLY THE SIMONSTOWN AND SILVERMINE BASES AND THE 'ADVOKAAT' NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT -- AND THE MILITARY CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE PRETORIA REGIME, ISRAEL AND SOME WESTERN POWERS." UNQUOTE
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